

A new Halictine Bee from the Northern United States (Hym.).

By MARION DURBIN ELLIS, Boulder, Colorado.

There is a rather common *Halictus* of the northern and eastern States which has generally passed as *H. connexus* Cresson. Genuine *H. connexus* from Texas, received through the kindness of Mr. J. C. Crawford, proves to be distinct, so it becomes necessary to describe the so-called *H. connexus* as new.

Halictus subconnexus n. sp.

♀.—Length, 6 mm.; head and thorax blue green; abdomen black, with distinct metallic green reflections, the broad outer margin of each segment brown, shading to testaceous at the edge.

Facial quadrangle almost if not quite as broad as long, a little narrower below than above; vertex closely punctured; lateral areas of the face somewhat shiny, the punctures a little more crowded along the inner margin of the eyes than about the base of the antennae; supraclypeal area and clypeus more or less brassy, sharply lineolate, and with fine, scattered punctures; distal half of the clypeus shining black, margined with rather long, golden yellow hair; flagellum dark brown, almost black; cheeks not large or prominent.

Thorax with coarse, more or less confluent punctures on the sides; mesonotum rather broad, its surface finely but sharply lineolate, and with very fine, widely separated punctures, which are closer, but still not crowded, along the posterior margin; median groove distinct, parapsidal grooves short and somewhat indistinct; scutellum distinctly two-parted, the punctures crowded around its margins and along the median groove; truncation of the metathorax not entirely surrounded by the low sharp rim, which is well developed on either side near the base; basal area of the metathorax distinctly concave in the middle, the outer margin elevated into a short rounded rim, which truncates the middle third of the strong, simple but crooked plicae; plicae at the sides long and continued well onto the full, rounded, lateral areas, where they seem to converge toward the dorsal end of the rim at the base of the truncation; tegulae brown.

Wings hyaline, nervures and stigma testaceous, width of the second submarginal cell not more than one and one-third in the third.

Legs dark brown, tarsi reddish brown, hind spur of the hind tibia with four teeth.

Abdomen broad and shiny, the disc of the first segment impunctate; pubescence pale ochraceous, rather abundant on the legs, the post-scutellum, the ventral surface of all, and the dorsal surface of the last

three abdominal segments, rather scanty on the rest of the thorax and head.

Hab.—Milwaukee, Wisconsin, one (=type) May 29, 1903, and one (cotype) April 27, 1905 (*S. Graenicher*). Forest Hills, Massachusetts, May 11, 1912 (*W. M. Wheeler*). Also from Garrison, New York (*Eleth Cattell*) and Niagara, New York, June, 1904 (*Cockerell*).

The specimens from Massachusetts were a little larger and more robust, and had the stigma and nervures a little darker than those from Wisconsin.

The males of this species and of *H. connexus* Cresson from Texas were examined and compared; each resembles the female of the respective species except for such differences as are due to sex. The males of the two species differ from one another in the same characters as the females.

***Halictus subconnexus rohweri* n. subsp.**

Two specimens from Newington, Fairfax Co., Virginia, May 30, 1911 (*S. A. Rohwer*), appear to represent a distinct subspecies. They differ from the typical form mainly as follows: punctures on the disc of the mesonotum a little closer, although quite as fine as in the type; along the lateral and posterior margins of the mesonotum the punctures are closely crowded, and this is especially apparent at the posterior lateral angle, hindmost end of the parapsidal groove; wings distinctly brownish although translucent, stigma and nervures very dark testaceous; truncation of the metathorax sharper and broader with a low sharp lateral rim extending almost to the dorsal margin.

The group of species to which *H. connexus* Cresson and *H. subconnexus* Ellis belong is characterized by the sculpture of the metathorax and the large size of most of its species. The plicae on the basal area of the metathorax are usually very strong. The basal area of the metathorax has a short, sharp rim which truncates its middle plicae but not the more lateral ones, and the truncation of the metathorax is more or less completely bounded by a low sharp rim. In the following key to this group the species are arranged in a series according to the coarseness of the punctures on the mesonotum.

A. Punctures of the mesonotum coarse or rather coarse.

B. Punctures very deep and coarse, wings somewhat brownish, tegulae not punctured.

C. Tibiae and tarsi rather light brown, wings very slightly brownish; sides of all the abdominal segments, except the first, with triangular patches of short, buffy hair; 6.8 mm.

Nebraska *H. bruneri* Crawford

CC. Legs black; wings distinctly brown; discs of abdominal segments 3 to 5 and sides of 2 with thin yellowish-white pubescence; 7 mm. Widely distributed.

H. cressoni Robertson

BB. Punctures only moderately coarse; wings not brownish.

D. Facial quadrangle almost square; tegulae with fine scattered punctures, not making the surface opaque; wings ample, hyaline, stigma and nervures dilute brown; 7.5 mm.

Eastern States. *H. nymphaeorum* Robertson

DD. Facial quadrangle longer than broad, distinctly narrowed below; tegulae impunctate; wings more or less milky white, stigma and nervures testaceous; 5 to 6.5 mm. Widely distributed. *H. albipennis* Robertson

AA. Punctures of the mesonotum fine and scattered; facial quadrangle very little if at all longer than broad.

E. Abdomen without metallic reflections; mesonotum shiny, or with but very fine lineolations.

F. Facial quadrangle broader than long, clypeus short, scarcely reaching below the eyes; mesonotum shiny, the punctures fine but not widely separated; tegulae rufo-testaceous; wings hyaline, the nervures and stigma pale testaceous; abdomen dark brown with short grayish pubescence; 7.5 mm. Texas.

H. connexus Cresson

FF. Facial quadrangle almost square, clypeus produced about two-thirds of its length below the eyes; mesonotum shiny, the lineolations very fine or absent; punctures a little closer than in *H. subconnexus* Ellis but finer than in any other species of the entire group; abdomen black, shiny and glabrous; wings slightly brownish, stigma and nervures reddish brown; 7 mm. Wisconsin. *H. nigroviridis* Graenicher

EE. Abdomen greenish or with very strong metallic reflections; mesonotum finely and sharply lineolate, with very fine and widely separated punctures; the last three abdominal segments covered with a thin ochraceous pubescence; tegulae brown.

G. Wings hyaline, stigma and nervures testaceous; 6 mm. Widely distributed. *H. subconnexus* Ellis

GG. Wings brownish; 6.5 mm. Virginia.

H. subconnexus rohweri Ellis

The specimens upon which this paper is based are in the collection of Professor T. D. A. Cockerell, to whom the writer is indebted for them and also for direction and help in this work.

Two new Silphids (Col.).

By (the late) FREDERICK BLANCHARD.

The two new species of *Choleva* in the Horn Collection bearing my Mss. names of *gratiosa* and *horniana*, are separated as follows:

Thorax and elytra coarctate; antennae with joints four and five subquadrate, fourth a little longer, sixth slightly wider than long, longer than the eighth, which is short transverse; male hind trochanters toothed; fifth ventral female entire. *clavicornis* Lec.
Sides of thorax and elytra nearly continuous; antennae with joints four to six transverse, gradually wider, sixth equal to eighth; fifth ventral of the female emarginate at middle of apex; hind trochanters simple in the male. Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, V.
19. *horniana* n. sp.

Gratiosa and *alsiosa* have the antennae longer than in the other species, third joint longer than the second, fourth as long as second; fifth ventral female entire.

Eighth joint of antennae longer, equal to the sixth or nearly so; anterior tibiae of male more slender, not curved or sinuate within; tarsi narrow in the same sex; elytra paler. Rangeley Lake, Maine, Aug. 1st. *gratiosa* n. sp.

Eighth joint of antennae very short, anterior tibiae of male stout, curved; front tarsi broadly dilated; first joint of middle tarsi wider; color at maturity piceous or black. *alsiosa* Horn.

[The above is an extract from a letter in reply to a request for information pertaining to these species.

The occurrence here at Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, of both these *Silphids* and their incorporation under the manuscript names in a list of the Coleoptera of Pennsylvania soon to be published, makes it advisable to place the above descriptions on record.—CHAS. LIEBECK.]